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16 spring assembly each having a compressed state, said main  
17 spring assembly radially expanding said main body of said  
18 graft to substantially conform said main body of said graft  
19 on an interior wall of the main lumen when said prosthesis  
20 assembly is positioned at a particular position in the  
21 bifurcated lumen and said main spring assembly is released  
22 from said compressed state, said first spring assembly  
23 radially expanding said first limb of said graft to  
24 substantially conform said first limb of said graft on an  
25 interior wall of the first branch lumen when said  
26 prosthesis assembly is positioned at the particular  
27 position in the bifurcated lumen and said first spring  
28 assembly is released from said compressed state, said  
29 transluminal arrangement] comprising:

30 main container means for containing [said] in a  
31 compressed state a main spring assembly of a prosthesis  
32 assembly [in said compressed state], said prosthesis  
33 assembly including a bifurcated endovascular graft having  
34 a main body and a first and a second limb extending  
35 therefrom, said main body including a main bore extending  
36 longitudinally therein and having a cranial orifice, said  
37 first limb including a first bore extending longitudinally  
38 therein, communicating with said main bore, and having a  
39 first caudal orifice, said second limb including a second  
40 bore extending longitudinally therein, communicating with  
41 said main bore and having a second caudal orifice, said  
42 main spring assembly radially expanding said main body of  
43 said graft to substantially conform said main body of said  
44 graft on an interior wall of a main lumen of a bifurcated  
45 lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned at a  
46 particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said main  
47 spring assembly is released from said compressed state, the  
48 bifurcated lumen including the main lumen and a first and  
49 a second branch lumen communicating with and extending from  
50 the main lumen;

51 first container means separated from said main  
52 container means for containing [said] in a compressed state

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53    a first spring assembly of said prosthesis assembly [in  
54    said compressed state], said first spring assembly radially  
55    expanding said first limb of said graft to substantially  
56    conform said first limb of said graft on an interior wall  
57    of the first branch lumen of the bifurcated lumen when said  
58    prosthesis assembly is positioned at the particular  
59    position in the bifurcated lumen and said first spring  
60    assembly is released from said compressed state;

61       retainer means positioned in said main and said first  
62    [bores] bore of said graft for retaining said prosthesis  
63    assembly at the particular position in the bifurcated lumen  
64    while said main container means is withdrawn from said  
65    prosthesis assembly releasing said main spring assembly  
66    from said compressed state.

Amend claim 4 as follows:

1    4. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim 3  
2    wherein said first container means includes a first sheath  
3    having a longitudinal bore and attached around said  
4    elongated member caudally from said dilator head and  
5    wherein said first spring assembly is positioned in said  
6    bore of said first sheath.

Amend claim 7 as follows:

1    7. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim 6  
2    wherein said main and said first attachment means comprises  
3    contraction means for temporarily pulling respectively said  
4    main and said first spring [assemblies] assembly inwardly  
5    to said compressed state when said prosthesis assembly is  
6    positioned within said main sheath.

Amend claim 8 as follows:

1    8. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim [7] 6  
2    wherein said main and said first attachment means [further  
3    comprise] comprises release means for releasing said  
4    prosthesis assembly from said retainer means either during

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5 or after removal of at least one of said main and said  
6 first [sheaths] sheath.

Amend claim 9 as follows:

1 9. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim 8  
2 wherein at least one of said main and said first attachment  
3 means comprises one or more [connectors each in the form  
4 of] sutures connected [at one end] to at least one of said  
5 main and said first spring [assemblies] assembly and at  
6 [the other] one end to inside of said [elongated tube]  
7 retainer means via apertures therein, and wherein said  
8 release means is positioned within said [elongated tube]  
9 retainer means for releasing said [sutures] suture from  
10 inside said [elongated tube] retainer means.

Amend claim 10 as follows:

1 10. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim 1  
2 further comprising a guide and [a method of positioning  
3 said prosthesis assembly at the particular position in the  
4 bifurcated lumen, said method comprising] the steps of:  
5 providing a first and a second access to the first and  
6 the second branch [lumens] lumen, respectively;  
7 [providing a] positioning said guide between the first  
8 and the second [accesses] access via the first and the  
9 second branch [lumens] lumen;  
10 positioning said transluminal arrangement at the  
11 particular position in the bifurcated [branch] lumen via  
12 the first access;  
13 withdrawing said main container means from said  
14 prosthesis assembly;  
15 positioning said second limb of said graft in the  
16 second branch lumen with said guide;  
17 releasing said retainer means from said prosthesis  
18 assembly when positioned at the particular position in the  
19 bifurcated lumen; and  
20 withdrawing said first container means from said first  
21 spring assembly.

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Cancel claim 11.

Amend claim 12 as follows:

1    12. (Amended) A transluminal arrangement for positioning  
2    a prosthesis assembly at a particular position in a  
3    bifurcated lumen, the bifurcated lumen including a main  
4    lumen and a first and a second branch lumen communicating  
5    with and extending from the main lumen, said prosthesis  
6    assembly including a bifurcated endovascular graft having  
7    a main body and a first and a second limb extending  
8    therefrom, said main body including a main bore extending  
9    longitudinally therein and having a cranial orifice, said  
10   first limb including a first bore extending longitudinally  
11   therein, communicating with said main bore, and having a  
12   first caudal orifice, said second limb including a second  
13   bore extending longitudinally therein, communicating with  
14   said main bore and having a second caudal orifice, said  
15   assembly including a main spring assembly, a first spring  
16   assembly, and a second spring assembly each having a  
17   compressed state, said main spring assembly radially  
18   expanding said main body of said graft to substantially  
19   conform said main body of said graft on an interior wall of  
20   the main lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned  
21   at a particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said  
22   main spring assembly is released from said compressed  
23   state, said first spring assembly radially expanding said  
24   first limb of said graft to substantially conform said  
25   first limb of said graft on an interior wall of the first  
26   branch lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned at  
27   the particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said  
28   first spring assembly is released from said compressed  
29   state, said second spring assembly radially expanding said  
30   second limb of said graft to substantially conform said  
31   second limb of said graft on an interior wall of the second  
32   branch lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned at  
33   a particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said

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34 second spring assembly is released from said compressed  
35 state, said transluminal arrangement comprising:  
36 main container means for containing said main spring  
37 assembly in said compressed state;  
38 first container means for containing said first spring  
39 assembly in said compressed state;  
40 second container means for containing said second  
41 spring assembly in said compressed state;  
42 main retainer means positioned in said main and said  
43 first [bores] bore of said graft for retaining said  
44 prosthesis assembly at the particular position in the  
45 bifurcated lumen while said main container means is  
46 withdrawn from said prosthesis assembly releasing said main  
47 spring assembly from said compressed state;  
48 first retainer means temporarily attached to said  
49 first spring assembly for retaining said first spring  
50 assembly in said first container means; and  
51 second retainer means temporarily attached to said  
52 second spring assembly for retaining said second spring  
53 assembly in said second container means.

Amend claim 16 as follows:

1 16. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim 12  
2 wherein said main retainer means comprises an elongated  
3 member having a dilator head at [the] a distal end thereof,  
4 main attachment means for temporarily attaching said main  
5 spring assembly to said elongated member, and first  
6 attachment means for temporarily attaching said first  
7 spring assembly to said elongated member.

Amend claim 17 as follows:

1 17. (Amended) The transluminal arrangement of claim 16  
2 further comprising first release means for releasing at  
3 least one of said main and said first attachment means  
4 either during or after removal of at least one of said main  
5 and said first [sheaths] container means.

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Amend claim 19 as follows:

1 19. The transluminal arrangement of claim 12 further  
2 comprising a guide and [a method of positioning said  
3 prosthesis assembly at the particular position in the  
4 bifurcated lumen, said method comprising] the steps of:  
5 providing a first and a second access to the first and  
6 the second branch [lumens] lumen, respectively;  
7 [providing a] positioning said guide between the first  
8 and the second [accesses] access via the first and the  
9 second branch [lumens] lumen;  
10 positioning said transluminal arrangement at the  
11 particular position in the bifurcated [branch] lumen via  
12 the first access;  
13 withdrawing said main container means from said  
14 prosthesis assembly;  
15 positioning said second limb of said graft in the  
16 second branch lumen with said guide;  
17 releasing said main, said first, and said retainer  
18 means from said prosthesis assembly when positioned at the  
19 particular position in the bifurcated lumen;  
20 withdrawing said first container means from said first  
21 spring assembly; and  
22 withdrawing said second container means from said  
23 second spring assembly.

Amend claim 20 as follows:

1 20. (Amended) A transluminal arrangement for positioning  
2 a prosthesis assembly at a particular position in a  
3 bifurcated lumen, the bifurcated lumen including a main  
4 lumen and a first and a second branch lumen communicating  
5 with and extending from the main lumen, said prosthesis  
6 assembly including a bifurcated endovascular graft having  
7 a main body and a first and a second limb extending  
8 therefrom, said main body including a main bore extending  
9 longitudinally therein and having a cranial orifice, said  
10 first limb including a first bore extending longitudinally

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11 therein, communicating with said main bore, and having a  
12 first caudal orifice, said second limb including a second  
13 bore extending longitudinally therein, communicating with  
14 said main bore and having a second caudal orifice, said  
15 graft including a main spring assembly, a first spring  
16 assembly, and a second spring assembly each having a  
17 compressed state, said main spring assembly radially  
18 expanding said main body of said graft to substantially  
19 conform said main body of said graft on an interior wall of  
20 the main lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned  
21 at a particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said  
22 main spring assembly is released from said compressed  
23 state, said first spring assembly radially expanding said  
24 first limb of said graft to substantially conform said  
25 first limb of said graft on an interior wall of the first  
26 branch lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned at  
27 the particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said  
28 first spring assembly is released from said compressed  
29 state, said second spring assembly radially expanding said  
30 second limb of said graft to substantially conform said  
31 second limb of said graft on an interior wall of the second  
32 branch lumen when said prosthesis assembly is positioned at  
33 a particular position in the bifurcated lumen and said  
34 second spring assembly is released from said compressed  
35 state, said transluminal arrangement comprising:  
36       a main sheath with said prosthesis assembly positioned  
37       in a bore of said main sheath;  
38       main container means for containing said main spring  
39       assembly in said compressed state;  
40       a first sheath with said first spring assembly  
41       positioned in a bore of said first sheath;  
42       first container means for containing said first spring  
43       assembly in said compressed state;  
44       a second sheath with said second spring assembly  
45       positioned in a bore of said second sheath;  
46       second container means for containing said second  
47       spring assembly in said compressed state;

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48       an elongated member positioned in said main and said  
49       first [bores] bore of said graft;  
50       main attachment means for temporarily attaching said  
51       main spring to said elongated member;  
52       first attachment means for temporarily attaching said  
53       first spring to said elongated member, said main and said  
54       first attachment [forming] means for retaining said  
55       prosthesis assembly at the particular position in the  
56       bifurcated lumen while said main sheath is withdrawn from  
57       said prosthesis assembly [releasing said main spring  
58       assembly from said compressed state];  
59       first retainer means temporarily attached to said  
60       first spring assembly for retaining said first spring  
61       assembly in said first container means;  
62       second retainer means temporarily attached to said  
63       second spring assembly for retaining said second spring  
64       assembly in said second container means;  
65       first release means for releasing at least one of said  
66       main and said first attachment means either during or after  
67       removal of at least one of said main and said first  
68       [sheaths] sheath; and  
69       second release means temporarily attached to said  
70       second spring assembly for releasing said second spring  
71       assembly when positioned in the second branch lumen of the  
72       bifurcated lumen.

Remarks

In the Office action of February 10, 1994, Paper No. 12, claims 1-20 are pending of which claims 10, 11, and 19 were withdrawn from consideration, claims 12-15 were allowed, claims 1-9 were rejected, and claims 16-18 and 20 were objected to. Applicants' election with traverse of Group I in Paper No. 10 was acknowledged and made final. Claims 4-9, 16, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter sought to be patented. Claims 1-4 were